

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MONITORING WORKSHOP:
PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION**
9-11 July, 2002

National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, WV

Purpose of meeting: Continue the development of an integrated and comprehensive long term Monitoring Plan for the National Capital Region of the National Park Service that provides essential information needed to preserve and enhance the region's most important natural resources.

Expected Outcomes: As a result of the meeting, we will:

(1) create a network of stakeholders united to preserve the most important resources in the National Capital Region

(2) review technical information developed by the Science Advisory Committee to lead to the development of a long-term monitoring plan of the region's most important resources.

Specifically, we will:

- (a) identify major threats (stressors and their sources) and their ecological effects to each important natural resource within the National Capital Region
- (b) identify ecological indicators to monitor important resources and their threats
- (c) develop monitoring objectives in line with monitoring goals guiding the National Park Service Inventory and Monitoring Program
- (d) identify protocols that could be used to monitor indicators
- (e) identify collaborative approaches to implement monitoring.

Tuesday - 9 July 02 (Day 1)

10:00	Welcome and Introductions
	Purpose and expected outcome of the Workshop
11:00	The National Park Service Inventory and Monitoring Program – how is this program relevant to the parks?
	The National Capital Region – a biological treasure chest
12:00	Lunch
1:00	The Regional Science Advisory Committee
	Important Resources in the National Capital Region
	Network Goals

- 2:00 Facilitated breakout sessions. Topics will include:
- Using sound science to manage the parks – exploring the relevancy of long-term monitoring to park operations.
 - Crossing park boundaries – developing partnerships to protect natural resources inside and outside of the National Parks.
 - Educating the public – how can scientists work with park interpreters?
- 4:00 Group Discussion – building internal and external partnerships.
- 5:00 Adjourn
- 7:00 Evening Social

Wednesday - 10 July 02 (Day 2)

- 8:00 Group Discussion: Workgroup Goals and Objectives.
- 9:00 Thematic Breakout Session: Each workgroup reviews draft threats, ecological effects, and potential ecological indicators. Workgroups include: Air, Geology, Invertebrates, Landscape, Rare – Threatened and Endangered Species and Communities, Vegetation Communities, Water, Wildlife.
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Thematic Breakout Session: Workgroups identify priority monitoring goals and objectives. Identify potential protocols.
- 4:00 Group Discussion: Exploring common themes among workgroups.
- 5:00 Adjourn

Thursday - 11 July 02 (Day 3)

- 8:00 Group Discussion: Workgroup Goals and Objectives
- 9:00 Thematic Breakout Session: Workgroups develop goals and objectives.
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Group Discussion: Prioritizing workgroup objectives.
- 3:00 Wrap – up. Identify next tasks.
- 4:00 Adjourn